

* THE CODE OF A USO HOSTESS *

- I SHE WILL ABOVE ALL APPRECIATE HER PATRIOTIC PRIVILEGE IN WORTHILY PROMOTING THE MORALE OF SERVICE MEN THROUGH THE USO PROGRAM.
- II SHE WILL AVOID ASKING FOR MILITARY INFORMATION AND SAFEGUARD ANY WHICH SHE INADVERTANTLY ACQUIRES.
- III SHE MUST FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR BEING THE ONE WHO CREATES THE SPIRIT OF "A HOME AWAY FROM HOME" FOR THE SERVICEMEN; ONE PERSON'S FAILURE IN THIS REGARD CAN DESTROY THE WORTH-WHILE EFFORTS OF MANY.
- IV SHE SHOULD REALIZE THAT THOSE WHO ARE UNSOCIAL AND EVEN SOMEWHAT ERRATIC AS A RESULT OF THEIR MILITARY EXPERIENCES MAY BE MOST IN NEED OF A "BOOST". AT TIMES, "THE MOST VALOROUS AND MORALLY VALUABLE WAR WORK IS THAT OF WORKING WITH IMPOSSIBLE PEOPLE."
- V SHE SHOULD EXERCISE THAT FINE SENSITIVITY AND UNDERSTANDING WHICH MAKES HER APPRECIATE THAT THE MAIN VALUE OF A USO TO SOME MEN MAY BE THEIR RIGHT TO DO NOTHING AT ALL AS A REACTION FROM MILITARY COMPULSIONS DURING DUTY HOURS.
- VI SHE KNOWS THAT A FRIENDLY SMILE AND A CHEERY "HELLO" MAY BE THE FINEST SERVICE SHE CAN RENDER
- VII SHE WILL BE WOMANLY RATHER THAN COY.
- VIII SHE WILL, THROUGH HER OWN ACTIONS AND THROUGH COMMENTS ABOUT USO MATTERS, ZEALOUSLY GUARD THE REPUTATION OF THE HOSTESS GROUP TO WHICH SHE BELONGS.
- IX ALTHOUGH ABLE TO MAKE EACH SERVICE MAN FEEL HIMSELF TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL, SHE WILL AVOID TO KEEP HER OWN INTERESTS IMPERSONAL RATHER THAN "GOING OVERBOARD" WITH SHALLOW AND SUDDEN ATTACHMENTS.
- X SHE REALIZES THAT MUCH OF THE HOSTESSES' POPULARITY IS DUE TO "GIRL SHORTAGE", AND THEREFORE IS NOT UNDULY SPOILED BY ATTENTION AND FLATTERY.

Jan Wirt

POLICIES CONCERNING JUNIOR HOSTESS

AND GSO MEMBERS

ASTORIA, OREGON USO

I.-PURPOSE OF MEMBERSHIP: To promote and participate in a program which will best serve the social, recreational, welfare, and spiritual needs of service men who use the facilities of the Astoria USO.

II REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP: An applicant must be a resident of Astoria who fulfills the following requirements.

A - Able to furnish references concerning character, good grooming and social responsibility from two adult citizens who have known the applicant for at least six months, and who are not related to her.

(1) One of these should preferably be from a minister, school official or teacher.

(2) If the applicant has recently moved to Astoria, she may use out-of-town references.

B - Have a personal conference with the director of women's activities or with a substitute appointed by her.

C- If references and consideration by the membership committee result in favorable action, a temporary membership card will be sent to the candidate.

D - Attendance at that Junior Hostess Training Course subsequent to admission is required to maintain membership status and to be granted a permanent Junior Hostess card.

E - A Junior Hostess who has given 50 hours of service (aside from mere social participation in activities) will be awarded the small USO pin; when she has completed an additional 50 hours of service, she will be awarded a GSO pin, and will become a member of the honorary group of the Girls Service Organization. The volunteer giving this service must be responsible for recording her hours in the proper ledger at the time on duty, and for reporting to the director of women's activities when she has reached the total necessary for the above special recognitions.

III SERVICE MEN'S WIVES

A - If to be resident in Astoria for an anticipated period of at least three months, may be admitted to active membership on the same basis as all Junior Hostesses as defined in II.

- D- If a transient resident, and accompanied by husband.
- (1) Is welcome as his guest to all co-recreational program activities or use of club facilities.
 - (2) Should observe the same standards of good taste in conduct and dress as is expected of Junior Hostesses.
 - (3) Must be willing to join in tag and mixer features rather than remaining exclusively with one partner.

IV MEMBERSHIP RESCINDED

- A - Upon conducting self in a manner which would be detrimental to the opinion which service men might have of the individual's character, to the true ideals of a thoughtful hostess, or to the highest standards of USO.
- B - Upon failure to either attend at least one USO dance per month, or to give service once a month in program or Service Nook.
- (1) Exceptions to this requirement will be made only upon presentation, in writing, of a justifiable excuse to the Executive Council.
 - (2) No credit will be given for the once monthly dance attendance if later than 8:45 in arriving, or if leaving before the end of the dance.
- C - Temporary membership will be rescinded upon failure to attend that Junior Hostess Training Course subsequent to admission.
- (1) If a candidate for permanent membership is not living in Astoria at the time such a course is offered, she will be put on "suspended membership basis" until such time as she is in town when a training course is given. Any member leaving town should notify the USO if she prefers to remain on suspended status or to be dropped.
 - (2) Other special excuses will be considered by the Executive Council upon prompt presentation of the cause in writing.
- D - If membership card is used by another, or if using another's membership card either in Astoria or elsewhere.

V TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP: A member of another USO (or similar organization which maintains the same careful standards of admission) who moves to Astoria may use her membership card once for guest admission, after which application for local membership will need to go through the same channels as indicated in II.

VI GUEST PRIVILEGES

- A - A local or out-of-town girl may attend a USO dance once as a guest of a Junior Hostess or a serviceman, after which

the former must apply for membership if she expects to attend further dances.

- (1) Any guest should be able to fulfill the same qualifications required of members.
- (2) Special arrangements to cover further admission of out-of-town guests should be made in advance with the USO.

- B - By official arrangement with the Seaside Hospitality House, membership cards are mutually acceptable only when registrations are made in advance between the hostess of Hospitality House and the director of women's activities at the Astoria USO.

VII DANCES AT PORTS AND NAVAL BASES

- A - Only members who have maintained active status (as specified in II) are automatically eligible to attend these dances. Other special arrangements for membership applicants or out-of-town guests of members may be made in advance at the USO.
- B - All who attend these dances must register in the USO building before going.
- C - All who attend these dances must use the transportation provided through USO and military authorities for both out-going and in-coming trips unless some unusual exception has been agreed upon in advance.
- D - Junior Hostesses should observe the same rules of conduct and good taste when guests at such dances as are outlined for USO affairs.

VIII FINES - Of ten cents for failure to present membership card at time of registering for either USO or outside dances.

IX USE OF THE BUILDING BY WOMEN

- A - Available only to active members of the Astoria USO hostess group, Servicemen's wives or their out-of-town guests who could fulfill qualifications required of Junior Hostesses.
- B - Recreational facilities are primarily for the use of service men or for co-recreational participation.
- C - At no time should hostesses or women guests monopolize equipment or space which is wanted by service men.
- D - Junior Hostesses should be proud to act as guides and informants of programs and policies to newly arrived service men and to guests who visit the building.

X POINTERS TO JUNIOR HOSTESSES

A - Should be well-groomed, neat and dainty.

B - Should dress to suit the occasion

- (1) For dances, men usually prefer to see a girl "dressed up"; slacks are not to be worn.
- (2) In general, girls look more ready to act as hostesses if hats are removed.
- (3) Skirts worn by "jitter-bugs" and those engaging in sports should not be too short nor too full for the best appearance. Try out your clothes "in action" in front of your mirror before coming to the USO.
- (4) Slacks, but not shorts, are permissible for co-recreational sports nights and picnics. Flat heeled shoes should be worn for these occasions.
- (5) The only exceptions permitted in regard to long skirts for the stipulated formal dances will be for transient servicemen's wives and out-of-town guests.

C - The proper courtesies of a hostess to servicemen guests, should be observed at all times.

- (1) She should accept invitations to dance, engage in sports or converse with any serviceman who is a guest of the USO unless his actions are objectionable.
 - (a) No hostess should feel that she should dance with a man who is intoxicated or ungentlemanly (the latter does not refer to lack of "polish").
 - (b) To avoid possible personal embarrassment, hostesses should report the cases referred to in (a) to a USO staff member, rather than trying to deal with the matter herself. Realize that professional staff is present to help you in any difficulties which may present themselves while giving service in the USO.
- (2) Anyone attending dances, whether with a date or not, must enter whole-heartedly into tags and mixers rather than staying exclusively with one partner or a clique.
- (3) A hostess should "look available" for participation and feel free to, as a "roving hostess" ask men if they don't want to join in the fun. Many men are "party-shy" after life in the jungle or months on board a ship.
- (4) If a hostess has a good reason for refusing a specific invitation, it is kindlier to tell that reason.
- (5) If a hostess feels too tired, or not "in the mood" for participation in the program activities of the evening, she would best be serving the purpose of USO by not coming at that time. On the other hand, she may well enter into the program in the spirit of "the play must go on".
- (6) Although men in general do not care for intensive Senior Hostess introduction campaigns, a girl can very well keep the ball rolling by introducing her partner to other Junior Hostesses.

D - Most "Canteens" have a rule prohibiting dating. We advise that it is best not to date nor accept an escort from the building until you "have seen him often enough at the Club to consider him as a friend."

E - The principles of good taste in conduct should be observed most rigidly; it is not only your own reputation which suffers if you fail in this - it is a reflection upon all Junior Hostesses.

- (1) Do not conduct yourself in USO lobby or "pavilion" in a way which would not be fitting in the best hotel lobby - it's just as public.
- (2) Avoid public expressions of affection. This also applies to married couples at the USO, for the majority of those in the club are not informed as to the marital status.